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**Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects**

# Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

## Note by the Secretariat concerning the responsibilities entrusted to the Secretary-General under draft resolution A/C.1/54/L.52

1. Under the terms of operative paragraph 4 of section II and operative paragraphs 2 and 4 of section III of draft resolution A/C.1/54/L.52, the General Assembly would:

(a) Request the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services as might be required for the second annual conference of High Contracting Parties to Protocol II and for its preparatory committee;

(b) Request the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services, including summary records, as might be required for the second Review Conference of the States parties to the Convention and its preparatory committee;

(c) Request the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, to continue to inform it periodically of ratifications and acceptances of and accession to the Convention and its Protocols.

2. The requests contained in operative paragraph 4 of section II and operative paragraphs 2 and 4 of section III of draft resolution A/C.1/54/L.52 referring to the Secretary-General's depositary functions relate to programme 26, Disarmament, of the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001, as revised, and to section 4, Disarmament, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.

3. With respect to the requests in operative paragraph 4 of section II and operative paragraph 2 of section III, indicative estimates are not available at this stage, since a number of decisions on organizational arrangements have yet to be taken.

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4. No provisions have been made under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 to undertake the activities entailed in implementing these requests. It should be noted that the Review Conference and its Preparatory Committee and the Annual Conference and its Preparatory Committee are conferences of States parties to the Convention. As was the case in the past, conferences of multilateral disarmament treaties, specifically the Review Conference of the States parties to the Convention, included in their rules of procedure provisions concerning the arrangements for meeting the costs of the conference, including the sessions of the preparatory committee. Under those arrangements, no additional cost was borne by the regular budget of the Organization. It should also be noted in this connection that article 13 of the amended Protocol II provides that the cost of the Conference of High Contracting Parties shall be borne by the High Contracting Parties and States not parties participating in the work of the Conference, in accordance with the United Nations scale of assessment, adjusted appropriately. The practice followed by the United Nations is to levy a charge, at a rate of 13 per cent of expenditures for such activities, to defray its administrative and other support costs incurred in their implementation. Accordingly, such an expense would also be borne by the High Contracting Parties and any other States that, under the rules of procedure, are invited to attend and do so.

5. The Committee's attention is drawn to the established practice that all activities related to international conventions or treaties that are to be financed outside the regular budget of the United Nations may only be undertaken when sufficient resources to cover the activities in question have been received in advance from, in this case, the High Contracting Parties and any other States that, under the rules of procedure, are invited to attend and do so.

**6. Accordingly, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.1/54/L.52, no additional requirements would arise under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.**